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ONTARIO

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Courses of Study

Grade 13

ENGLISH

This Course of Study, introduced in September 1960, replaces that formerly contained in Curriculum S. 25, last printed in 1957.

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ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF
THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

COURSE OF STUDY

ENGLISH

GRADE 13

ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Work in Grade 13 Composition should enable the pupil to make intelligent observations within a wide range of experience, to organize his ideas logically, and to communicate the results of his thinking to others with clarity, purpose, and effectiveness. To help the pupil develop these qualities, more emphasis should be placed on speaking and writing with a purpose than on text-book exercises in the mechanics of composition. In order to reach a minimum standard of proficiency in essay writing and oral expression, the pupil must have something to say, show power to organize his ideas, and be able to use English clearly, correctly, and agreeably. If these qualities are to be acquired, a command of correct usage and abundant practice in oral and written work are essential.

The Grade 13 course should include a more mature treatment of the courses for Grades 11 and 12 (Curriculum S.4), and also the following:

(i) Essay:

Further practice should be given in the planning and writing of essays. In order to provide experience in the organization of a considerable amount of material, at least one longer expository essay of 1000 to 1500 words should be written. Throughout the year, the pupil should be given practice in the writing of short essays of all types.

(ii) Précis:

In writing a précis, the pupil must convey the essential meaning of a given passage in about one-third the length of the original. The pupil's version should be logically developed and expressed mainly in his own words.

(iii) Critical Evaluation:

In a critical evaluation of a prose passage, the pupil should be prepared to consider the content, the structure, the author's purpose, and the means by which he has produced his effects.

(iv) Sentence Structure:

Regular attention should be given to the use of words and the clausal analysis of sentences in order to give the pupil an understanding of the connection between clear thought and correct form.

(v) Form:

In written work, neatness, legibility, proper layout, and correct capitalization and punctuation are essential; in oral work, thoughtful and well-constructed statements audible to all members of the class.

(vi) Correlation:

Material drawn from the prescribed course in literature will provide many opportunities to illustrate the principles of writing that are taught in the courses in English Composition and to stimulate the pupil to better writing.

The Departmental examination in English Composition may test the candidate's ability

- (a) to write a short essay on one of a list of topics;
- (b) to write a précis;
- (c) to give a critical evaluation of a prose passage;
- (d) to do one or more of the following:
 - (i) explain the use of words, phrases, and clauses in achieving specific effects in sentences and expand simple statements into complex sentences;
 - (ii) correct sentences that contain faulty grammar or incorrect use of words and give the reasons for these corrections;
 - (iii) explain the meaning of words and use them correctly in sentences.

ENGLISH LITERATURE

The study of English Literature in Grade 13 should enable the pupil to gain a broader and deeper understanding of life by comprehending the ideas and intentions of the authors whose works have been prescribed and by apprehending, as far as possible, their imaginative experience. The pupil should acquire some appreciative insight into the thoughts and feelings of writers and an understanding of the art by which the total impression is conveyed to the reader. Literary forms and techniques should be examined in order to discover their contribution to this total impression. Through the study of literature, the pupil should develop discrimination and good taste in his reading, a desire to read widely, and the ability to enjoy an enlarged intellectual and emotional experience.

Audible, clear, and acceptable oral answers and regular practice in oral reading are part of the pupil's training in English.

Supplementary Reading

The reading of books other than those prescribed for examination purposes is an essential part of the course of study. This additional reading might well include articles that report and criticize interests of contemporary life.

Memorization

Although memorization of suitable passages is not included for examination purposes, each pupil should be required to memorize a reasonable number of suitable passages.

The Departmental examination in English Literature will be based upon the prescription in Circular S. 58, issued annually.